

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
EB-08 OMB-01 TRSY-02 IO-13 DOE-15 SOE-02 OES-07
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FM AMEMBASSY BERN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6167
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN POUCH
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW POUCH
AMEMBASSY PARIS POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERN 1989

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, SZ
SUBJ: AMB'S LUNCHEON CONVERSATION WITH POLITICAL DEPT
SECRETARY GENERAL WEITNAUER

1. AT LUNCHEON APR 19 AMB REVIEWED CURRENT SUBJECTS
WITH POL DEPT SECRETARY GENERAL WEITNAUER.
WEITNAUER'S VIEWS ON ECONOMIC SUMMIT CONSULTATIONS, RENEGOTIA-
TION OF A US/SWISS PEACEFUL NUCLEAR AGREEMENT, AND SSOD HAVE
BEEN REPORTED SEPARATELY. IN ADDITION, WEITNAUER COMMENTED
ON OTHER ISSUES AS FOLLOWS:

2. EAST/WEST RELATIONS. SOVIET AMB LAVROV FREQUENTLY
SPEAKS OF ONGOING US/USSR CONSULTATIONS, SUGGESTING MUCH IS
GOING ON THAT IS NOT REPORTED. WEITNAUER HAD NO GREAT
PROBLEM WITH PRESIDENT'S DECISION "NEUTRON" BOMB, SINCE
DECISION TENTATIVE. HE SAID, HOWEVER, MANY CONSIDERED
DECISION EVIDENCE OF "UNPREDICTABILITY" OF US POLICY (WHICH
WEITNAUER THOUGHT MIGHT BE PREMEDITATED). HE NOTED SPECIAL
SOVIET SENSITIVITY SINCE BOMB INTENDED TO MEET SOVIET
TANK THREAT. ON CSCE, WEITNAUER THOUGHT RESULTS OK. HE
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REGREETED SUPERPOWERS HAD TO HAMMER OUT FINAL RESULTS.

3. US/FRG RELATIONS: WEITNAUER REFERRED TO THE RECENT
REGULAR CONSULTATIONS IN BERN WITH FRG STATE SECRETARY
VAN WELL, WHO INSISTED THAT FRG AND US RELATIONS EXCELLENT.
IN CONTRADICTION TO PRESS REPORTS, VAN WELL SAID GERMANS
APPRECIATED BEING INFORMED AND CONSULTED AS OFTEN AS THEY

ARE; THAT CONSULTATIVE PROCESS BETTER THAN UNDER PRESIDENTS NIXON AND FORD.

4. FRANCE: WEITNAUER PLEASED BUT NOT SURPRISED BY THE RESULTS OF ELECTIONS IN FRANCE.

5. ITALY: THOUGH MORO KIDNAPPING COULD RESULT IN GREATER SUPPORT FOR CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY. DID NOT SEEM CONCERNED OVER THREAT OF TERRORIST USE OF SWITZ.

6. MIDDLE EAST: WEITNAUER SAID SWISS SYMPATHY FOR EGYPTIANS GREAT BUT NOT AS GREAT AS FOR ISRAEL. DUBIOUS OVER POSSIBILITY OF US IMPOSING A SETTLEMENT. THOUGHT PRESIDENT'S REMARKS AT ASWAN WERE TURNING POINT IN MIDDLE EASTERN AFFAIRS.

7. CHINA: WEITNAUER SAW GREAT TRADE POTENTIAL FOR SWITZERLAND, RECALLED THAT SWITZ FIRST WESTERN COUNTRY TO RECOGNIZE PRC, AND THAT CHINESE HAD NOT FORGOTTEN. HE THOUGHT TAIWAN BEST TREATED AS INTERNAL CHINESE QUESTION.

8. AFRICA: WEITNAUER TOOK NO ISSUE WITH OUT POLICY IN AFRICA. ALTHOUGH SWISS BIG BUSINESS WAS OFTEN UNHAPPY WITH WHAT WAS HAPPENING, MORE RESPONSIBLE BUSINESSMEN WERE BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND SITUATION COULD NOT REMAIN STATIC.

9. SWISS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS: AMB
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WARNER ASKED WHETHER SWISS COULD CONTRIBUTE MORE TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. WEITNAUER SAID IT WAS A POSSIBILITY BUT SWISS LIKED TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES DIRECTLY WITH PROJECTS AND PEOPLE TO WHICH CONTRIBUTIONS ARE BEING MADE. HE ASKED WHICH ORGANIZATIONS WE HAD IN MIND.
WARNER

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